

**Attachment A**

**Resolution Certifying the Final Environmental Impact Report**



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL  
RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE  
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT  
FOR THE  
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY  
TOPOCK COMPRESSOR STATION  
GROUNDWATER REMEDIATION PROJECT  
EPA ID# CAT080011729**



WHEREAS, the PG&E Topock Compressor Station Groundwater Remediation Project and related Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared for the Project identifies and considers the potentially significant adverse environmental effects of actions associated with Alternative E (In Situ Treatment with Freshwater Flushing) (the Project), as well as other potentially feasible alternative remedies available for the investigation and remediation of groundwater contamination at, and in the vicinity of, the Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) Topock Compressor Station in San Bernardino County, California.

WHEREAS, groundwater beneath and near the Topock Compressor Station (“compressor station”) and the Colorado River are designated for beneficial uses under the Colorado River Basin Water Quality Control Plan adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region in accordance with criteria contained in the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, the Federal Clean Water Act, and other pertinent state and federal rules and regulations. The designated beneficial uses of the groundwater include municipal and domestic supply, industrial service supply, and agriculture supply. The beneficial uses of the Colorado River water body include almost all consumptive and nonconsumptive uses. Currently, the Colorado River water is a major source of drinking water for millions of people within the western United States.

WHEREAS, groundwater near the compressor station has been contaminated by chemicals associated with historical releases in areas known as Bat Cave Wash and East Ravine. The main contaminant of concern in groundwater is Cr(VI), which was used in the past as an additive to the cooling water at the compressor station, and is harmful to human health and ecological receptors in the environment. Other chemicals present in the groundwater include molybdenum, selenium, and nitrates. Although currently not being used as a drinking water

source, the affected groundwater has the potential to come into contact with drinking water wells and the Colorado River.

WHEREAS, remediation of contaminated groundwater at the site is being conducted under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA) and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA). RCRA corrective action activities at the compressor station site were initiated in 1987 with the completion of a RCRA facility assessment conducted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

WHEREAS, RCRA provides a framework for USEPA to remediate hazardous waste sites throughout the United States. In California, DTSC implements RCRA under such delegated authority from the USEPA through state law.

WHEREAS, DTSC has an ongoing Corrective Action Consent Agreement with PG&E, which also describes DTSC's authority over the proposed project.

WHEREAS, a total of 15 solid waste management units (SWMUs), 20 areas of concern (AOCs), and two other undesignated areas have been identified at the compressor station. The SWMUs, AOCs, and other undesignated areas have been identified at different times during the history of the RCRA corrective action process, and therefore, the status of the various sites differs. The status of sites ranges from those where no investigation has yet been performed to sites where remediation and closure have already been completed.

WHEREAS, as part of the corrective action process, in 2004, DTSC determined that immediate action was necessary at the compressor station, as a precautionary measure, to ensure that chromium-contaminated groundwater does not reach the Colorado River. Interim Measures (IM) were instituted to protect the Colorado River. There have been three separate but related IMs at the compressor station since 2004 in response to the need to control the groundwater plume.

WHEREAS, the DTSC has worked in collaboration with U.S. Department of Interior (DOI), U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, other state and local agencies, the public and tribal stakeholders to identify and analyze the impacts of the final remedy for control and remediation of the groundwater plume at and in the vicinity of the compressor station.

WHEREAS, DTSC has reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR), including the Draft EIR and all supporting documents, including maps, exhibits, testimony, and written documents contained in the file for this project, including its environmental analysis on record with the environmental consulting firm AECOM (formerly EDAW). All references to the EIR and Final EIR hereafter shall include all documents cited above.

WHEREAS, the DTSC, the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act, now finds that:

1. Notice has been given in the time and in the manner required by State Law.
2. The Final Environmental Impact Report for the Topock Compressor Station Groundwater Remediation Project, incorporated herein by reference, was presented to DTSC. The Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) includes the Draft Environmental Impact Report, all comments and recommendations received on the Draft EIR, a list of all persons, organizations, Native American tribal governments, and public agencies commenting on the Draft EIR, the responses to comments made regarding significant environmental points, and all revisions to the Draft EIR, the Final EIR for the Topock Compressor Station Final Groundwater Remediation Project, including the Errata to the Final EIR, which is incorporated herein by reference and attached as “Exhibit 1” (collectively the FEIR). DTSC has independently reviewed and considered the information contained in the FEIR, including comments received from the public.
3. The FEIR was completed in compliance with CEQA.
4. The FEIR reflects the DTSC’s independent judgment and analysis.

**BE IT RESOLVED and CERTIFIED** by the DTSC that:

1. The Errata to the Final EIR for the Compressor Station Groundwater Remediation Project, attached hereto as “Exhibit 1” and incorporated herein by reference, is hereby adopted.

2. The FEIR was completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (Pub. Resources Code section 21000 et seq.), as amended, and the State Guidelines thereto (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, section 15000 et seq.).
3. The FEIR was presented to DTSC, and was independently reviewed and considered by the DTSC.
4. The FEIR reflects the DTSC's independent judgment and analysis.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the DTSC on January 31, 2011.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC  
SUBSTANCES CONTROL

By   
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